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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of: John B. Harvey  
Serial No.: 09/939,516  
Confirmation No.: 2442  
Filing Date: August 24, 2001  
For: SPLIT SLITTER  
Examiner: Michael P. Ferguson  
Group Art Unit: 3679

FACSIMILE COVER PAGE

DATE: January 26, 2004  
TO: Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450  
Attn: Michael P. Ferguson  
FAX: (703) 872-9306  
FROM: Joseph W. Byrne, Registration No. 43,522

TOTAL NUMBER OF PAGES (including this one): 81

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Patent Application  
Attorney Docket No. 26346-1

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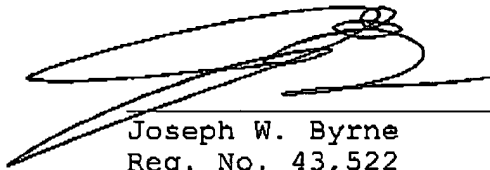
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- (2) Information Disclosure Statement, 3 pages;
- (3) Forms PTO/SB/08A and PTO/SB/08B, 2 pages; and
- (4) Cited Prior Art Patent Documents (14 documents)

related to the above-referenced Patent Application are being  
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Office, Fax No. (703) 872-9306 on January 26, 2004.

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Joseph W. Byrne  
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**TRANSMITTAL OF INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Dear Sir:

Submitted herewith is an Information Disclosure Statement in the above-referenced application. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c) in that it is being filed after the mailing date of a first Office action and, as far as is known to the undersigned, before the mailing date of any final action, a notice of allowance, or any action that otherwise closes prosecution in this application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any required fees to deposit account no. 02-2850. The required fees include \$180.00 for the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p). The Commissioner is also hereby authorized to charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment in any required fees to

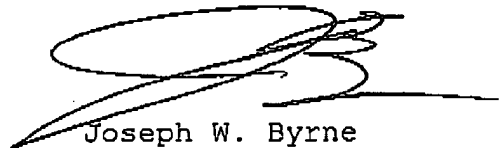
Transmittal of Information Disclosure Statement

Page 1 of 2

Patent Application  
Attorney Docket No.: 26346-1

deposit account no. 02-2850. For the purpose of charging fees to the deposit account, a duplicate of this transmittal letter is attached.

Respectfully submitted,



Joseph W. Byrne  
Registration No. 43,522

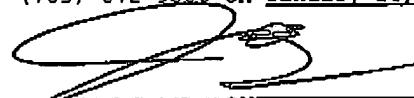
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Joseph W. Byrne  
Reg. No. 43,522

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Patent Application  
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**Attn: Michael P. Ferguson**

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Dear Sir:

Applicant submits herewith patents, publications or other information, of which Applicant is aware, which Applicant believes may be material to the examination of the above-referenced application, and in respect of which, there may be a duty to disclose.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made (37 C.F.R. §1.97(g)), or as an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability (37 C.F.R. §1.97(h)), or that no other material information as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b) exists. The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as an admission against interest in any manner.

*Information Disclosure Statement*

*Page 1 of 3*

Patent Application  
Attorney Docket No.: 26346-1

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c) in that it is being filed after the mailing date of a first Office action and, as far as is known to the undersigned, before the mailing date of any final action, a notice of allowance, or any action that otherwise closes prosecution in this application. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c)(2), the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge \$180.00 to deposit account no. 02-2850 to cover the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).

**List of Sections Forming Part of this Information  
Disclosure Statement**

The following items are being submitted as part of this Information Disclosure Statement:

- 1) A list of all patents, publications, applications or other information submitted for consideration (see attached Forms PTO/SB/O8A and PTO/SB/O8B). 37 C.F.R. 1.98(a)(1).
- 2) Legible copies of all items listed in attached Forms PTO/SB/O8A and PTO/SB/O8B are enclosed herewith. 37 C.F.R. 1.98(a)(2).
- 3) Identification of person(s) making this Information Disclosure Statement.

**Identification of Person(s) Making this Information  
Disclosure Statement.**

Patent Application  
Attorney Docket No.: 26346-1

The person making this Information Disclosure Statement is the practitioner who signs below on the basis of information supplied by the inventor and information in the practitioner's file.

It is submitted that this Information Disclosure Statement is in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98 and Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the patents, publications, applications and other information disclosed herein.

Respectfully submitted,



Joseph W. Byrne  
Registration No. 43,522


Dated: January 26, 2004

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Joseph W. Byrne  
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STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 2

**Complete if Known**

Application Number	09/939,516
Filing Date	August 24, 2001
First Named Inventor	John B. Harvey
Art Unit	3679
Examiner Name	Michael P. Ferguson
Attorney Docket Number	26346-1

**U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
		US- Re. 32,693	06-14-1988	Winfield	
		US- 732,111	06-30-1903	Perkins	
		US- 744,917	11-24-1903	Houldsworth	
		US- 772,634	10-18-1904	Snyder	
		US- 2,488,309	11-15-1949	Mason	
		US- 3,659,490	05-02-1972	Buck	
		US- 3,751,080	08-07-1973	Bailey et al.	
		US- 3,889,553	06-17-1975	Ballheimer	
		US- 4,422,348	12-27-1983	Campbell	
		US- 4,506,559	03-26-1985	Francke et al.	
		US- 4,637,807	01-20-1987	Koelling, Sr.	
		US- 5,085,535	02-04-1992	Solberg et al.	
		US- 5,531,536	07-02-1996	Blanchfield et al.	
		US-			
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**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> Number <sup>4</sup> Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				
		GB 2213	11-30-1889			

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 801.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language translation is attached.

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